

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5                   1. An automatic tee-up device, comprising:  
a golf ball reservoir;  
a platform with a groove for a golf ball to travel from the reservoir to a tee, with  
the tee movable from below a level of the golf ball in the groove to above the level of the golf  
ball in the groove; and  
10                   a ball ejector disposed to eject golf balls one at a time from the reservoir onto the  
groove;  
wherein after the golf ball is ejected by the ejector, the golf ball travels on the  
groove to the tee and is raised by the tee into a position suitable for striking with a golf club.
- 15                   2. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 1, wherein the platform includes a mat  
that has the groove.
3. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 2, wherein the mat with the groove is  
removable from the rest of the platform.
- 20                   4. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 2, wherein the platform includes at  
least one other mat positioned where a golfer stands on the platform.

5. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 1, wherein the ball ejector operates in conjunction with an agitating block so as to eject the golf balls one at a time and so as to agitate golf balls in the reservoir.

5                    6. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 1, wherein the ball ejector and the tee are actuated by a lever that projects from the platform.

7. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 6, wherein the lever is disposed to be actuated by a head of the golf club moved in a horizontal arc.

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8. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 6, wherein the lever is connected to a ramp and the tee is connected to a tapered block that rests on the ramp such that movement of the ramp causes the tee to raise or to lower.

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9. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 8, wherein the tee is removable so as to facilitate replacement of the tee.

10. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 6, wherein different positions of the lever correspond to different tee heights, and wherein the platform further includes a scale

20    adjacent the lever corresponding to the tee heights.

11. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 1, further comprising one or more leveler feet on which the platform rests, the leveler feet permitting the platform to be leveled.

12. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 1, wherein the platform further  
5 includes at least one hinge by which the platform can be folded up.

13. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 12, wherein the groove is in a removable mat on the platform;

wherein the platform includes at least two mats positioned where a golfer stands  
10 on the platform; and

wherein a seam between the two mats aligns with the hinge.

14. An automatic tee-up device as in claim 12, wherein further including at least two wheels disposed for moving the automatic tee-up device when the platform is folded up.

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15. A method of using an automatic tee-up device, comprising the steps of:

actuating a lever to cause a ball ejector to eject golf balls one at a time from a golf ball reservoir onto a platform with a groove for a golf ball to travel from the reservoir to a tee;  
and

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actuating the lever to cause the tee to raise the golf ball, with the tee movable from below a level of the golf ball in the groove to above the level of the golf ball in the groove;

wherein after the golf ball is ejected by the ejector, the golf ball travels on the groove to the tee and is raised by the tee into a position suitable for striking with a golf club.

16. A method as in claim 15, wherein the ball ejector operates in conjunction  
5 with an agitating block so as to eject the golf balls one at a time.

17. A method as in claim 15, wherein the lever is disposed to be actuated by a head of the golf club moved in a horizontal arc.

10 18. A method as in claim 15, wherein the lever is connected to a ramp and the tee is connected to a tapered block that rests on the ramp such that movement of the ramp causes the tee to raise or to lower.

15 19. A method as in claim 15, wherein different positions of the lever correspond to different tee heights, and wherein the platform further includes a scale adjacent the lever corresponding to the tee heights.

20. A method of storing an automatic tee-up device that includes a platform on which a golfer can stand, comprising the steps of:  
20 folding up the platform at a hinge on the platform; and  
rolling the platform to a storage location.

21. A method as in claim 20, further comprising the step of removing at least one mat from the platform.